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SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

GUIDED MISSILE INTELLIGENCE FROM THE KLYUCHI/KAMCHATKA COVERAGE

22 AUGUST 1957



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SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

"GUIDED MISSILE INTELLIGENCE FROM
THE KLYUCHI/KAMCHATKA [REDACTED]

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22 August 1957

OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE

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PREFACE

25X1D This Scientific Intelligence Memorandum provides a summary of the guided
missile intelligence [redacted] of the Klyuchi/Kamchatka
25X1D area [redacted] A brief treatment of the reasons for guided missile
intelligence interest in the Klyuchi area is included as well as a discussion
25X1D of type of information which it was hoped would be acquired [redacted]

25X1D [redacted]
25X1D Detailed [redacted] data is continuing at
25X1D HT AUTOMAT; it is unlikely however, that future [redacted] analysis will
25X1D reveal any new information of sufficient guided missile importance to alter
the conclusions reached herein.

The precise role of the Klyuchi area in the Soviet guided missile program
continues to be the subject of further studies in OSI/CIA.

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GUIDED MISSILE INTELLIGENCE FROM
THE KLYUCHI/KAMCHATKA COVERAGE

PROBLEM

To assess the guided missile intelligence

of the Klyuchi/Kamchatka area.

CONCLUSIONS

1. not reveal any specific indications of guided missile activity.

2. The probability that the Klyuchi area is the terminus rather than the launch point for a new guided missile test range between Novokazalinsk/Dzhusaly and Klyuchi areas is strengthened by the complete lack of evidence of the extensive facilities associated with rangehead type activities.

3. Within the best known opportunity for acquiring data which should answer critical questions on the status of the Soviet ICBM program of the probable new rangehead in the Novokazalinsk/Dzhusaly area.

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DISCUSSION

A. Guided Missile Intelligence Interest in the Klyuchi Area


1. By its geographic location alone, the Kamchatka Peninsula area, including its bordering bodies of water, has long been a suspect location for the terminus of a new long distance ballistic missile flight test range. Impact points here would provide the longest great circle distance between known and suspect launching points in western USSR. Flight test ranges of 3000 to 4500 nautical miles could be achieved.




*The Novokazalinsk/Dzhusaly area also includes the Kzyl Orda area.

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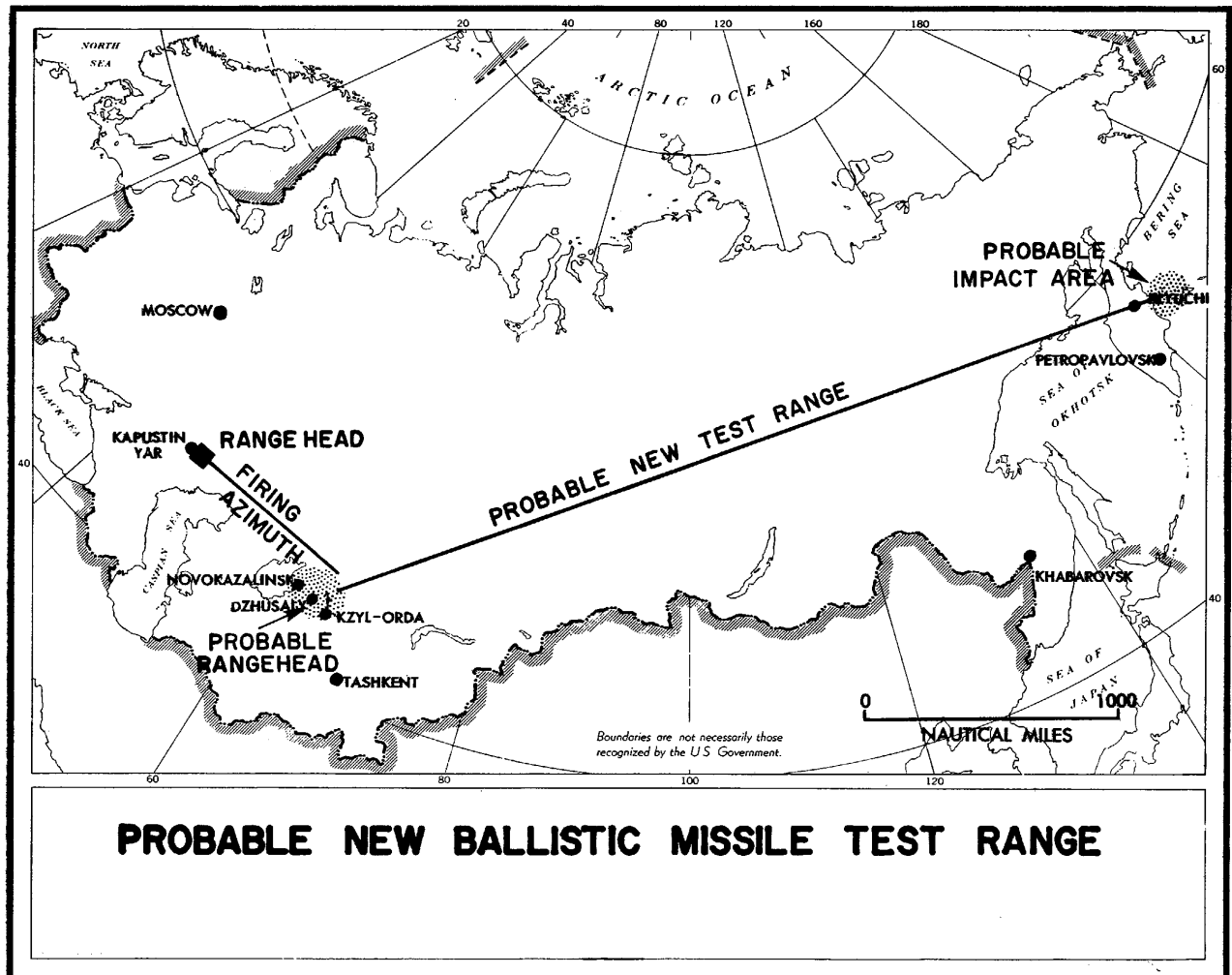
3. The evidence indicates Soviet preparations for testing either a ICBM or earth satellite vehicle (ESV). It is doubtful  alone could provide an answer to the key question of whether the Klyuchi area was intended to be the terminal impact area for an ICBM or the location of instrumentation sites for the ESV or both. However, the critical question to be answered is whether the Klyuchi area contains only instrumentations sites or evidence that a launching site is being constructed there. Because of the overriding intelligence importance of the ICBM the remainder of this paper will consider only that aspect with emphasis on the status and timing of the program.

4. There was some question as to which area is to be the launching point and which area is to be the impact area for the ICBM test range. The available evidence strongly indicated that the Novokazalinsk/Dzhusaly area would contain the launching point with the range terminus in the Klyuchi area. However, the relatively large amounts (about 21,000 tons ) of cargo off-loaded at Ust Kamchatsk and destined for the Special Construction Unit at Klyuchi could have indicated the start of construction of a launching area-possibly to serve a dual role, first as a launcher for test range and later as an operational launching site for ICBMs.

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25X1D B. Potential Guided Missile Information Available
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25X1D 1. Klyuchi As An Impact Area. Instrumentation sites for acquiring
missile telemetry and trajectory data would probably be located along the
terminal trajectory path.

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Klyuchi area it might be possible
to determine an instrumentation site pattern from which the intended impact area
could be deduced.

2. Administrative and logistic support for the instrumentation sites
in an impact area would probably be centralized on one location - possibly
Klyuchi. Approximately 200-400 personnel would be needed to operate the
equipment and provide "housekeeping" functions. A rapid and dependable
communication system is needed to connect this location with its instrumentation
sites. In addition, an equivalent system is required to connect the central
location with the rangehead control station. A modest transportation terminus
and some warehouse-type storage facilities should be present.

3. Klyuchi As A Launching Point. The guided missile test rangehead area
would contain many distinguishable features, the "readiness" of which should
provide a direct indication of the timing of the missile program to be flight-
tested thereat. There would be launching facilities consisting of concrete
pads, servicing towers, control bunkers, fuel storage areas, electronic
instrumentation sites, and special missile handling and fueling equipment.

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A fairly large industrial complex should be located nearby to provide support type operations such as missile assembly, missile check-out, liquid oxygen production, and general industrial maintenance activities. A range control center and communication network would also be located near the launching area. The whole rangehead area should be interconnected by a first-class road network with large radius turns for missile handling equipment.

4. Impact Area vs Launching Point. The type, quantity, dispersion and distinguishability of missile facilities located in a rangehead area compared with those in an impact area definitely indicate that by far the greatest opportunity for acquiring information on the status of the Soviet ICBM program

C. Data Acquired [redacted] ^{1/} of Klyuchi Area.

1. [redacted]

[redacted] was acquired on the primary target - the

town of Klyuchi and the surrounding terrain. [redacted]

^{1/} HTA-B43-57, dated 23 June 1957, (Top Secret [redacted])

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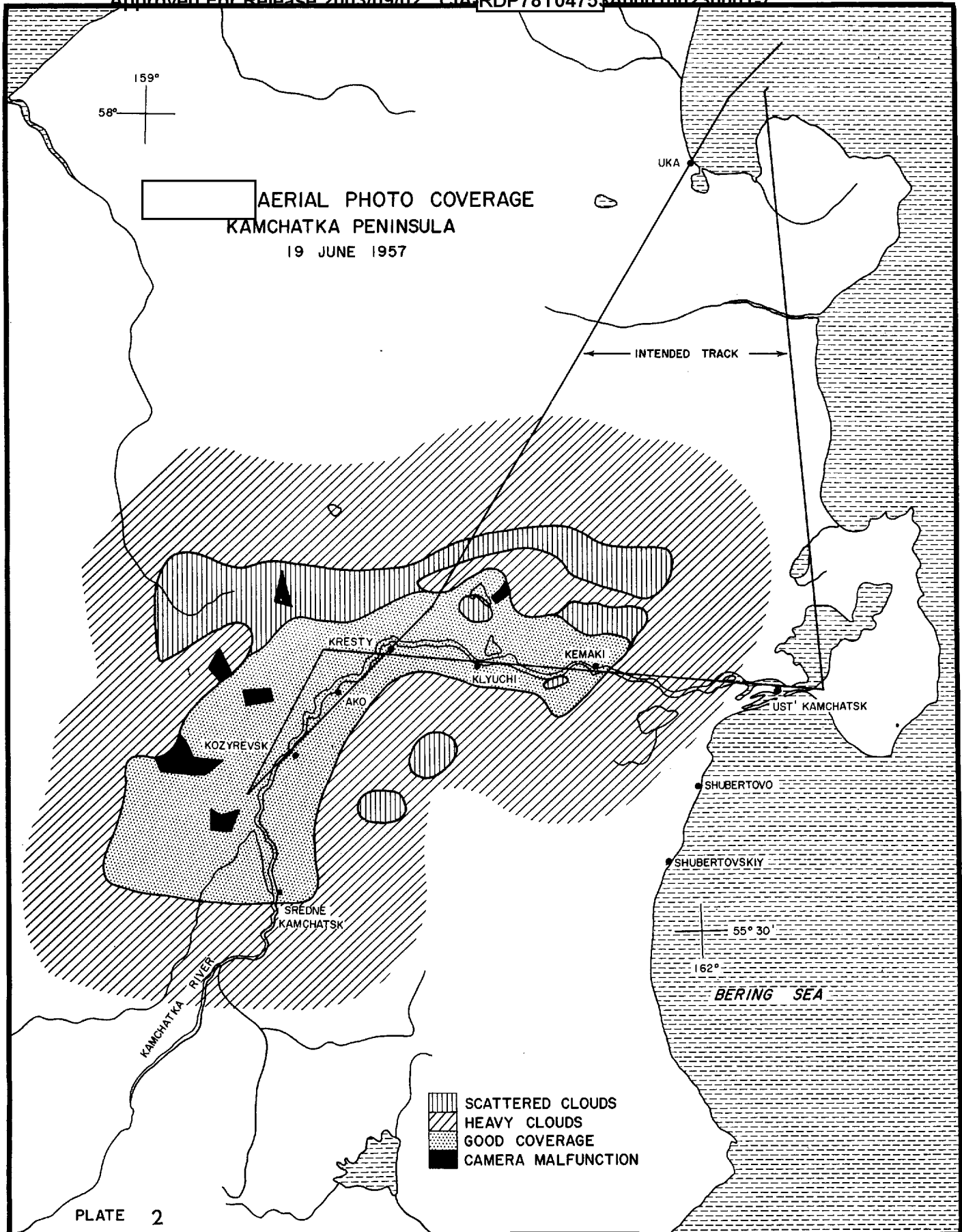
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2. Two military type installations are located in the town of Klyuchi; one has been completed for sometime, and the other is currently under construction. The installation under construction consists of seven large two story buildings of barracks or warehouse type ranging in size from 30' x 90' to 60' x 130', and several other smaller buildings in varying stages of construction. On the western outskirts of Klyuchi there were seven HOUND helicopters parked in a small clearing. No large airstrips were detected near the town of Klyuchi; a large area (approximately 1,000' x 11,000') is being cleared just north of the town of Kozyrevsk which looks like the early stages of airfield construction.

3. [] considerable logging activity in the area.

Villages of the Kamchatka River Valley are connected by a narrow swath (approximately 20' wide) cut through the vegetation which is typical of communication or power line clearings. The transportation in the area is restricted to narrow trails except in the immediate vicinity of villages and logging camps. There is considerable river traffic consisting of barges and small craft. Nearly all activities, (towns, logging camps, trails, communication or power lines and river docks) are located on the southern side of the Kamchatka river indicating little activity to the immediate north.

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D. Guided Missile Knowledge1. Klyuchi As A Launching Point.

no evidence of guided missile rangehead type activities. In fact there was a complete lack of any evidence indicating that such activity was intended for the area or could be supported by the logistic capabilities evident in and around Klyuchi. Although it is recognized that a rangehead could be located in an area this is considered highly unlikely for the following reasons:

a. Klyuchi has been the focal point indicating that the guided missile activity involved probably has its headquarters in Klyuchi;

b. Rangehead activities would require considerable logistic support during both the construction and operational phases. There is no indication of such logistic activity in the Klyuchi area.

c. The very rugged terrain and extremely poor weather conditions make this whole area of Kamchatka generally unfavorable for rangehead activities.

2. definitely weakens, but does not positively exclude, the possibility of a guided missile rangehead being located in the Klyuchi area.

3. Klyuchi As An Impact Area. did not provide any direct indications of the guided missile test range instrumentation sites normally associated with an impact area. Such sites would probably be dispersed along the terminal trajectory path and located on fairly elevated plateaus to

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provide line-of-sight tracking on the incoming missile all the way to its impact point. Water impact is likely; therefore, some small "shacks" along the coastline with cables leading out into water to sonic detection systems would also be expected. Considering the probable locations of instrumentation sites [REDACTED] the absence of any direct indications of such sites [REDACTED] is not surprising.

4. A heliport with seven HOUND helicopters [REDACTED] on the western edge of Kiyuchi. Although these helicopters could be utilized for many purposes, there is the distinct possibility that they service guided missile instrumentation sites dispersed along the terminal trajectory path. [REDACTED]

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5. The military installation currently under construction could be a focal point for the impact area and as such could provide ample housing, warehouse and general logistic support facilities for the outlying instrumentation and communication sites. The 21,000 tons of cargo destined for Special Construction Unit at Klyuchi [] could well be going into this new installation.

6. Impact Area vs Launching Point. The complete lack of any indications of guided missile rangehead type activities in or around Klyuchi definitely weakens this possibility. These negative results when considered in the light of other associations with the guided missile program strengthen the probability that the Klyuchi area will be the terminus for the new test range. The comparative likelihood of detecting indicators of the two activities also becomes a factor favoring the "impact area" explanation. []

E. The Unanswered Guided Missile Intelligence Questions.

1. This study further supports the belief that the Klyuchi area is probably the terminus for a new guided missile test range and as such undoubtedly would contain instrumentation sites. The types, quantities and locations of these sites are not known. [] the whole area would probably reveal possible locations of instrumentation sites from which a reasonable estimate of the intended impact point could be deduced. []

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2. The probability that the launching point for a new long range ballistic missile test facility is located in the Novokazalinsk/Dzhusaly area is strengthened by the negative results of the Klyuchi



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